

LOCAL AND SCIENTIFIC NAMES OF COMMERCIAL FISHES OF BOMBAY¹

BY

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Correlation and standardization of the common or local names of fishes present a difficult problem the world over, but it is all the more baffling in a multi-lingual country like India. To avoid the confusion, recourse must be had to scientific terminology, but even here the correlation of scientific and local terms, which is essential, does not exist. This condition makes confusion worse confounded, and persons aspiring to study fisheries on a scientific basis and to keep records in a systematic manner are completely at sea.

Fishes of different species or even different genera have sometimes a single local name, while the same fish may have different names in adjoining localities or at different stages of its growth. What is known as 'Halva' in Bombay (Black Pomfret) is termed 'Saranga' in Malvan and the 'Halva' of Malvan (Silver Pomfret) is the 'Saranga' of the Bombay market. Similar confusion is prevalent in respect of many other fishes also. Determined efforts are therefore necessary to reduce this confusion as far as possible.

Similarly, some of the scientific names are changed on account of international rules of nomenclature and the law of priority. Even terms of common usage, such as *Stromateus* and *Serranus*, are changed to *Pampus* and *Epinephelus*, which are rather difficult to get acquainted with, at the outset. Some publications use the older names, whereas others resort to changed nomenclature, causing bewilderment in the minds of readers. It is, nevertheless, necessary that scientific workers should be familiar with these changes. References to these taxonomic alterations are scattered through different publications, which may not be easily accessible.

It is proposed, therefore, to give, as far as possible, the latest scientific names along with their local (Bombay) and English equivalents. Whenever terms prevalent at Karwar (Kannad), Malvan (Marathi-Konkani) and Bulsar (Gujarati) are available they are also mentioned. These terms are indicated by the capital letters of the respective languages preceding them, namely K, M and G. Most of the taxonomic changes have already been accepted and published by such eminent authorities in ichthyology as Drs. Weber and de Beaufort in their memorable volumes on 'The Fishes of the Indo-Australian Archipelago' and Dr. Herre.² The nomenclature used by Day in his 'Fishes of

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² Herre, A. W. C. T. (1941): A list of Fishes known from the Andaman Islands, *Mem. Ind. Mus.* XIII: 331-403.

India' and in the Fauna of British India volumes on fishes, is also mentioned for the sake of correlation, as these publications are the only references commonly available to students of Indian ichthyology. Scientific and local names of oysters, crabs, clams, etc., although they are not fish in the strict scientific sense, are included in this list as they are also 'fishery products'.

While furnishing the list, references to families and other scientific classes and sub-classes in which fishes are grouped, are purposely omitted in order to make the list simple. Instead, broad groups, such as sharks, herrings, mackerel, etc., are retained for easy reference.

It is hoped the list will be of practical utility to both students and laymen.

<i>Scientific name</i>	<i>Bombay and local name</i>	<i>English name</i>
(K = Kannada name; M = Marathi-Konkani name; G = Gujarati name)		
SHARKS, SKATES AND RAYS		
<i>Scoliodon sorrakowah</i> (Cuv.)... = Day : <i>Carcharias laticaudus</i> (Kner.)	Son Mushi ; K : Shivra ; M: Mori; G: Moosi	Sharp-nosed Shark
<i>Carcharinus melanopterus</i> (Q. G.) = Day : <i>Carcharias melanopterus</i>	Khada; K. Tansi	Black-finned Shark
<i>Carcharinus limbatus</i> (Mull. & Hnl.) = Day : <i>Carcharias limbatus</i>	Balda or Pisori ; K : Khaksi	...
<i>Galeocerdo arcticus</i> (Fbr.) ... = Day : <i>Galeocerdo tigrinus</i>	Waghbeer ; G: Magra or Patari	Tiger Shark
<i>Rhynchobatus djiddensis</i> (Forsk.)	Ranja or Lanj ; G : Magra or Buthar	Guitar Fish
<i>Sphyrna zygaena</i> (Linn.) ... = Day : <i>Zygaena malleus</i>	Kanar; K: Variocha	Hammer-headed Shark.
<i>Pristis cuspidatus</i> Latham ...	Nali or Win ; G : Vehar	Saw Fish
<i>Dasyatis (Himantura) uarnak</i> (Forsk.) = Day : <i>Trygon uarnak</i>	Waghya Pakat ; G : Warkhol	Marbled Sting Ray
<i>Aetomylaeus maculatus</i> (Gray) = Day : <i>Myliobatis maculata</i>	Bolad or Wagli ; K : Wagha	Bat Ray
EELS		
<i>Muraena (Gymnothorax) pseudothyrsoides</i> (Blkr.) = Day : <i>Muraena pseudothyrsoides</i>	Kilis	Black Eel
<i>Muraenesox talabonoides</i> (Blkr.)	Wam	Common Eel

Scientific name	Bombay and local name	English name
MARINE CAT FISHES		
<i>Arius gagorides</i> (C. V.) = Day : <i>Arius sona</i>	... Shigala ; K : Shede ; G : Khaga	Marine Cat Fish
<i>Arius jella</i> Day	... Shighala ; G : Dharawa	Marine Cat Fish
<i>Arius dussumieri</i> (C. V.)	... Shingati ; K : Shede	Marine Cat Fish
<i>Arius sagor</i> (Ham. Buch.)	... Shingala	Marine Cat Fish

HERRINGS, SARDINES AND RELATED SPECIES

<i>Coilia dussumieri</i> (C. V.)	... Mandeli	Golden Anchovy
<i>Thrissodes mystax</i> (Schn.) = Day : <i>Engraulis mystax</i>	... Kati	Anchovy
<i>Thrissocles malabaricus</i> (Bl.) = Day : <i>Engraulis malabaricus</i>	... Kati	Anchovy
<i>Sardinella longiceps</i> (C. V.) = Day : <i>Clupea longiceps</i>	... Tarli, Haid, Kanat ; K : Boige or Tarli	Oil Sardine
<i>Kowala coval</i> (C.) = Day : <i>Clupea lile</i>	... Bhiljee ; K : Berza	White Sardine
<i>Sardinella fimbriata</i> (C. V.) = Day : <i>Clupea fimbriata</i>	... Pedwa ; K : Hesdi, Pedi	Sardine
<i>Stolephorus malabaricus</i> (Day) = Day : <i>Spratelloides malabaricus</i>	... Katati ; G : Phansti	White Bait
<i>Ilisha elongata</i> (Benn.) = Day : <i>Pellona elongata</i>	... Katati ; G : Phansti	White Bait
<i>Ilisha feligera</i> = Day : <i>Pellona feligera</i>	... Kati	White Bait
<i>Hilsa ilisha</i> (Ham.) = Day : <i>Clupea ilisha</i>	... Palla or Pala ; G : Chaski or Chaksi	Indian Shad
<i>Hilsa toli</i> (C. V.) = Day : <i>Clupea toli</i>	... Bhing ; G : Modar	Giant Herring

PERCHES, GROUPERS, SNAPPERS, ETC.

<i>Lates calcarifer</i> (Bl.)	... Khajura or Jitad ; K : Guri ; G : Gari	Cock-up or Nair Fish ; Sea Bass
<i>Epinephelus tauvina</i> (Forsk.) = Day : <i>Serranus salmoides</i>	... Hekru, Gobra	Giant Grouper
<i>Serranus malabaricus</i> (Bl. Schn.) = Day : <i>Serranus bontoo</i> = Day : <i>Serranus semipunctatus</i> = Day : <i>Serranus pantherinus</i>	... Hekru, Gobra	Speckled Grouper

Scientific name	Bombay and local name	English name
<i>Epinephelus maculatus</i> (Bl.) ...	Hekru	Spotted
= Day : <i>Serranus maculatus</i>		Grouper
<i>Lutjanus johni</i> (Bl.) ...	Chavari tamb	Snapper
= Day : <i>Lutianus johnii</i>		
<i>Lutjanus johnii</i>		
<i>Lutjanus roseus</i> Day ..	Tambusa ;	Red Snapper
= Day : <i>Lutianus roseus</i>	K : Kemmasu	
<i>Pomadasys maculatum</i> (Bl.) ...	Karkara	Grunter
= Day : <i>Pristipoma maculatum</i>		
<i>Pomadasys hasta</i> (Bl.) ...	Karkara	Grunter
= Day : <i>Pristipoma comersonii</i>		
<i>Therapon jarbua</i> ...	Navhera, Nayada	Target Perch

CROAKERS

<i>Pseudosciæna diacanthus</i> (Lac.)	Ghol ; K : Gholi	Jew Fish
= Day : <i>Sciæna diacanthus</i>		
<i>Pseudosciæna sina</i> (C.V.) ...	Ghol	Jew Fish
= Day : <i>Sciæna sina</i>		
= Day : <i>Sciæna vogleri</i>		
<i>Pseudosciæna soldado</i> (Lac.) ...	Ghol	Jew Fish
= Day : <i>Sciæna miles</i>		
<i>Johnius dussumieri</i> (C.V.) ...	Dhoma	
= Day : <i>Sciæna glauca</i>		
<i>Otolithes ruber</i> (Bl. Sch.) ...	Dhoma ;	Croaker
= Day : <i>Otolithus ruber</i>	G : Dhangari ;	
	K : Kudtali	
<i>Otolithes argenteus</i> (C.V.) ...	Dhoma ; Dhodi ;	Croaker
= Day : <i>Otolithus argenteus</i>	Dhomi	
<i>Otolithoides brunneus</i> (Day) ...	Koth	Dori
= Day : <i>Sciænoides brunneus</i>		

RIBBON FISHES

<i>Trichiurus savala</i> Cuv. ...	Wagti	Silver Ribbon Fish
<i>Trichiurus haumela</i> (Forsk) ...	Baga	Gray Ribbon Fish

HORSE MACKEREL

<i>Atule kalla</i> C.V. ...	Kala bangada	Horse Mackerel
= Day : <i>Caranx kalla</i> C.V.		
<i>Atule male</i> C.V. ...	Lalbi or Kala bangada	do
= Day : <i>Caranx affinis</i>		
<i>Megalaspis cordyla</i> (L.) ...	Karkata bangada	do
= Day : <i>Caranx rottleri</i> (Bl.)		
<i>Atule djedaba</i> ...	Lalbi or Shitap	do
= Day : <i>Caranx djeddaba</i>		

Scientific name	Bombay and local name	English name
POMFRETS AND THREAD FINS		
<i>Pampus argenteus</i> (Euphr.) ... = Day : <i>Stromateus cinereus</i> (Euphr.)	Saranga ; Paplet, K : Manju ; G : Vichuda, Pipad ; M : Halva	Silver Pomfret
<i>Pampus chinensis</i> (Euphr.) ... = Day : <i>Stromateus sinensis</i> Cantor	Kalwad (Saranga); K : Manju ; G : Vichuda	White Pomfret
<i>Parastromateus niger</i> (Bl.) ... = Day : <i>Stromateus niger</i>	Halwa ; K : Karimanju ; M : Saraga	Black Pomfret
<i>Polynemus indicus</i> Shaw. ...	Darha or Dadha	Monk Fish or Giant Threadfin
<i>Eleutheronema tetradactylum</i> (Shaw) ... = Day : <i>Polynemus tetradactylus</i> (Shaw)	Rawas ; K. Ramsi	Bahmin or Indian Salmon

TRUE MACKEREL, SEER FISH AND TUNAS

<i>Scomberomorus guttatus</i> (Bl. Schn.) ... = Day : <i>Cybium guttatum</i>	Surmai, Towar or Iswan ; K : Arkale	Seer Fish
<i>Scomberomorus commersoni</i> (Lac.) ... = Day : <i>Cybium commersonii</i>	Surmai, Towar or Iswan ; K : Arkale	Seer Fish
<i>Scomberoides tala</i> C.V. ... = Day : <i>Chorinemus tolo</i>	Dagol ; K : Halaminu	Port-hole Fish
<i>Rastrelliger kanagurta</i> (C.) ... = Day : <i>Scomber microlepidotus</i> Ruppell	Bangada	Mackerel
<i>Euthynnus alletteratus affinis</i> (Cantor) ... = Day : <i>Thynnus thunnina</i> Schl.	Kuppa or Gedar ; K : Bugdi	Tuna
<i>Thynnus macropterus</i> ... = Day : <i>Thynnus macropterus</i>	Kuppa, Khavyala Gedar	Tuna
<i>Euthynnus pelamis</i> (L.) ... = Day : <i>Thynnus pelamys</i>	Kuppa, Khavalya Gedar	Tuna

GOBIES AND MUD SKIPPERS

<i>Parachaeturichthys ocellatus</i> (Day) ... = Day : <i>Gobius ocellatus</i>	Kharbi	Gobies
<i>Awaous stamineus</i> (Val.) ... = Day : <i>Gobius striatus</i>	Kharbi	Gobies

Scientific name	Bombay and local name	English name
<i>Periophthalmodon schlosseri</i> (Pall.)	Nivti ;	Mud Skipper
= Day : <i>Periophthalmus schlosseri</i> ...	G : Levta	
<i>Boleophthalmus dussumieri</i> (C.V.) ...	Nivti ;	Mud Skipper
... G : Levta		
<i>Boleophthalmus boddaerti</i> (Pall.) ...	Nivti ;	Mud Skipper
... G : Levta		

MULLETS

<i>Mugil cephalus</i> Linn. ...	Boi or Mangan, Pilsa ;	Mullet
= Day : <i>Mugil oeur</i> Forsk.	K : Shevta ;	
	G : Magiyan	
<i>Mugil speigleri</i> Blkr. ...	Bhadavi or Boi	Mullet
<i>Mugil engeli</i> Blkr. ...	Bhadvi or Boi	Mullet
= Day : <i>Mugil kelaarti</i> Gunther		

SOLES AND PLAICE

<i>Psettodes erumei</i> (Bl. Schn.) ...	Bhakas	Indian Turbot
<i>Pseudorhombus arsius</i> (H.B.) ...	Lepti or lep ;	Sole
	G : Gipti	
<i>Cynoglossus lingua</i> (H.B.) ...	Gipti, Lep, Shivra	Sole
<i>Cynoglossus dispar</i> (Day) ...	Shivra, Lep	Sole

OTHER MARINE FISHES

<i>Chirocentrus dorab</i> (Forsk.) ...	Karli or Datal ;	Silver Bar
	K : Bale	
<i>Drepane punctata</i> Linn. ...	Chand	Moon Fish
<i>Scatophagus argus</i> (Bl.) ...	Vada ; G : Kaski	Scat
<i>Upenoides</i> sp. ...	Chiri	Goat Fish
<i>Tylosurus strongylurus</i> (V. Hass)	Toli	Fullbeak Gar Fish
= Day : <i>Belone strongylura</i> V. Hass.		
<i>Hemirhamphus leucopterus</i> ...	Toli	Halfbeak Gar Fish
<i>Harpodon nehereus</i> (Ham.) ...	Bombil ;	Bombay Duck
	G : Bumla or Gulchi	
<i>Sparus berda</i> Forsk. ...	Khadak palu ;	Black Sea Bream
= Day : <i>Chrysophrys berda</i>	G : Kharapla	
<i>Rachycentron canadus</i> ...	Sakla or Modosa ;	
= Day : <i>Elacate nigra</i>	K : Morvasa	
<i>Histiophorus gladius</i> (Brouss.)	Tadmasa	Sword Fish
<i>Leiognathus faciatus</i> Lac. ...	Katati	Silver Belly
= Day : <i>Equula fasciata</i>		
<i>Lactarius lactarius</i> (Bl. Sch.)	Saundala	Big-jawed Jumper
= Day : <i>Lactarius delicantulus</i>		

<i>Scientific name</i>	<i>Bombay and local name</i>	<i>English name</i>
<i>Sillago sihama</i> (Forsk.) ...	Murdi, Renvi; K: Nagali; G: Murda	Whiting or Lady Fish
<i>Bregmaceros mcclillandi</i> Thompson ...	Tenali, Khada or Netali	

FRESH WATER CATFISHES

<i>Mystus sheenghala</i> (Sykes)... = Day: <i>Macrones sheenghala</i>	Shingala or Katia	Long-nose Catfish
<i>Mystus cavasius</i> (Ham.) ... = Day: <i>Macrones cavasius</i>	Shingati	Catfish
<i>Mystus gulio</i> (Ham.) ... = Day: <i>Maerones gulio</i>	Shingati	Catfish
<i>Wallago attu</i> (Bl.) ...	Shivda or Pahdi; G: Padin	Mulley or Wallago
<i>Ompok bimaculatus</i> (Bl.) ... = Day: <i>Callichrous bimaculatus</i>	Vanj or Valanj or Googawari	
<i>Silonopangasius childreni</i> (Sykes) = Day: <i>Silundia sykesii</i>	Shilan or Shiland	White Catfish
<i>Heteropneustes fossilis</i> (Bl.) = Day: <i>Saccobranchus fossilis</i>	Nal Shingali	Stinging Catfish

CARPS

<i>Labeo rohita</i> (Ham.) ...	Rohu	Rohu
<i>Labeo calbasu</i> (Ham.) ...	Calbasu or Kano-shi; G: Kanchhi or Cowcchi	Calbasu or Kalbose
<i>Labeo fimbriatus</i> (Bl.) ...	Tambir G: Bhilji or Belzi	Copper Carp
<i>Catla catla</i> (Ham.) ... = Day: <i>Catla bucharani</i>	Catla	Catla
<i>Tor khudree</i> ... = Day: <i>Barbus tor</i>	Mahseer, Khadra, Waris; G: Kudna	Mahseer
<i>Tor musullah</i> ... = Day: <i>Barbus tor</i>	Mahseer, Masalya; G: Kudna	Mahseer
<i>Puntius jerdoni</i> Day = Day: <i>Barbus dobsoni</i> = Day: <i>Barbus jerdoni</i>	Khavalya or Potil	Jerdon's Carp
<i>Puntius kolus</i> Sykes = Day: <i>Barbus kolus</i>	Kolshi	Kolshi
<i>Puntius sarana</i> (Ham.) = Day: <i>Barbus sarana</i>	Darai or Khaval	Olive Carp
<i>Cirrhina mrigala</i> (Ham.) ...	Mrigal or Mirga	Mrigal

<i>Scientific name</i>	<i>Bombay and local name</i>	<i>English name</i>
SNAKE-HEADS (MURRELS)		
<i>Chana marulius</i> (Ham.) ... = Day : <i>Ophicephalus marulius</i> (Ham.).	Murrel	Murrel
<i>Chana striatus</i> (Bl.) ... = Day : <i>Ophicephalus striatus</i> (Bl.)	"	"
<i>Chana leucopunctatus</i> (Sykes) ... = Day : <i>Ophicephalus leucopunctatus</i> (Sykes)	"	"
<i>Chana gachua</i> (Ham.) ... = Day : <i>Ophicephalus gachua</i> (Ham.)	Dhokh, Daku	

OTHER FRESHWATER FISHES

<i>Mastacembelus armatus</i> (Lacep.) ...	Bam	Spiny Eel
<i>Anguilla anguilla</i> (Ham.) ... = Day : <i>Anguilla bengalensis</i>	Ahir	Freshwater Eel
<i>Glossogobius giuris</i> (Ham.) ... = Day : <i>Gobius giuris</i> (Ham.)	Kharabi	Freshwater Goby
<i>Notopterus notopterus</i> (Pallas) ... = Day : <i>Notopterus kapi-rat</i>	Chalat ; G : Patre	Feather Back
<i>Garra mullya</i> (Sykes) ... = Day : <i>Discognathus lamta</i>	Mullya	Stone Carp
<i>Rasbora daniconius</i> ...	Dandavan	Rasbora
<i>Lepidocephalus thermalis</i> (C.V.) ... = Day : <i>Lepidocephalichthys thermalis</i>	Muri	Loaches
<i>Nemachilus botia</i> var. <i>aureus</i> Day ...	Muri	Loaches
<i>Etroplus suratensis</i> ...	Kalundar	Pearl Spot

ESTUARINE FISH

<i>Osphronemus goramy</i> ... = Day : <i>Osphronemus olfax</i>	Gourami	Gourami
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PRAWNS AND SHRIMPS

<i>Penaeus indicus</i> (E. Edw.)..	Kolambi ; K : Sunkata ; G : Cholla	Prawn
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<i>Scientific name</i>	<i>Bombay and local name</i>	<i>English name</i>
<i>Penaeus semisulcatus</i> (de Man)	Kolambi; K: Sunkata; G: Cholla	Prawn
<i>Leander styliferus</i> (M. Edw.)	Kolambi; K: Sunkata; G: Cholla	Prawn
<i>Leander polamiscus</i> (Kamp.)	Kolambi; K: Sunkata; G: Cholla	Prawn
<i>Metapenaeus monoceros</i> (Faber)	Kolambi	Prawn
<i>Acetes indicus</i> (M. Edw.) ...	Kolim	Shrimps
<i>Palaeomon carcinus</i> (Faber),	Zinga; G: Sondiya	Freshwater Prawn

LOBSTERS AND CRABS

<i>Panulirus ornatus</i> var. <i>decoratus</i> Heller.	Shevand	Rock Lobster
<i>Panulirus fasciatus</i> (Fabr.)	Shevand	Common Lobster
<i>Scylla serrata</i> (Fork.) ...	Chimbori; G: Karachla	Stone Crab
<i>Neptunus pelagicus</i> Linn. ...	Ghodi; G: Kamal Karachla	Blue Crab

CLAMS AND OYSTERS

<i>Ostrea gryphoides</i> (Sch.) ...	Kalu	Oyster
<i>Ostrea cucullata</i> (Born.) ...	Kalu	Oyster
<i>Ostrea discoidea</i> (Gould.) ...	Kalu	Oyster
<i>Meretrix meretrix</i> ...	Shivali or Tisari	Clams
<i>Paphia malabarica</i> ...	Shivali or Tisri	Clams
<i>Tapes</i> sp. ...	Shivali or Tisari	Clams

CHANKS AND PEARL OYSTERS

<i>Placuna placenta</i> ...	Thale or Chandkule; G: Kasarachhip	Window-pane Oyster; Seed Pearl Oyster
<i>Xancus pyrum</i> = <i>Turbinella pyrum</i> ...	Shankh or Chank	Chank or Conch

CUTTLE FISHES AND SQUIDS

<i>Scpia</i> sp. ...	Makul	Cuttle Fish
<i>Loligo</i> sp. ...	„	Squid